



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: HONOLULU NEEDS A GAS TAX HOLIDAY

Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) will introduce a measure to temporarily suspend the City's 16.5 cent gas tax. Councilmember Djou joins Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa and Senate Minority Leader Fred Hemmings in calling for a moratorium on the gas tax to help alleviate the wild gyrations and soaring prices created by the state's gas cap.

"The state legislature's gas cap exacerbates the problem of high gas prices in Hawaii and causes undue hardship on our residents. The purpose of government is to serve the public, not itself. A temporary holiday on the City's 16.5 cent gas tax will go a long way toward normalizing gas prices and provide needed relief for Honolulu commuters as they endure the wild gas price gyrations created by the gas cap. The City has already placed an undue burden on local residents by doubling the vehicle tax, it's about time we provide our residents some relief with a gas tax holiday," stated Councilmember Djou.

While serving in the State House in 2002, then-Rep. Djou vigorously opposed the gas cap. Councilmember Djou is also the only member of the Honolulu City Council to vote against both of the two recent vehicle tax increases that doubled the Honolulu automobile tax.

The City, state and federal gas taxes combined, along with the state general excise tax, give Hawaii residents the highest gas tax in the United States at approximately \$.60/gal.

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